

HOLIDAY ISSUE^{30.7}

dialog



GBC celebrates holidays

p.8-9

SPORTS SPORTS SPORTS p.6

Our new by-laws approved p.3

Festive Movie Guide p.10

Great Holiday Recipes p.3, p.8

Our own movie star! p.10

a view from the castle p.7

DUP
S
ARCHIVES
08 Jan 99
CD

International Students

Did you know... that your previous work experience could make you eligible for **PERMANENT RESIDENCE** in Canada?

Did you know... that upon completion of your studies you are entitled to work in Canada for one year?

Did you know... that one year's experience in an occupation on the "List of Occupational Demand" and other factors could be sufficient to qualify for **PERMANENT RESIDENCE** in Canada?

For a consultation and assessment by an Immigration Specialist call:

Vilma Filici, B.A., B.Ed. (Member of OPIC)

Filici Legal Services Inc.

120 Eglinton Ave., East, Suite 302 Toronto, M4P 1E2

Tel: (416) 482-1575 Fax: (416) 482-2267

E-mail: vilma@total.net

TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE, AND ENGINEERING GRADUATES

MANAGE your FUTURE

TEXTILE MANAGEMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Textiles Human Resources Council's one-year Textile Management Internship Program (TMIP) is a unique and innovative program delivered by McMaster University's School of Business, the Faculty of Engineering Technology at Mohawk College, and North Carolina State University's world renowned College of Textiles located in Raleigh, North Carolina.

This English-language program, to start May 1999 in Hamilton, Ontario, offers:

- free tuition,
- world-class education in textile technology and managerial skills,
- four-month paid co-op placement,
- one week lab experience at North Carolina State University, and
- excellent potential for full-time, well-paying employment.



Today's \$10 billion Canadian textile industry is highly dynamic and innovative with world class technology.

Our sales, exports and investments are at record levels. To maintain our competitive position, we need well-trained future managers—managers who are technically competent and possess skills in communications, negotiation, and performance management. If you want to be on the cutting edge and are looking for a challenging and rewarding future, we invite you to join Canada's textile makers and contact us for more information at:

Textile Management Internship Program

c/o Textiles Human Resources Council

66 Slater Street, Suite 1720, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H1

Telephone: (613) 230-7217 and Fax: (613) 230-1270

E-mail: david.kelly.thrc@sympatico.ca and

shirley.mckey.thrc@sympatico.ca

Web site: www3.sympatico.ca/thrc

Deadline to receive applications is February 1, 1999.



Textiles
Human
Resources
Council

Council des
ressources humaines
de l'industrie
du textile

This program is supported by the federal government's Youth Initiative; participants must be 30 years of age or under.

TIME CONSTRAINTS??

- ☐ Writers Block?
- ☐ Can't find the words or the right research materials you need?
- ☐ We can help!

Write: Custom Essay Service

4 Collier Street, Suite 201
Toronto, Canada M4W 1L7

Call: (416) 960-0240

INTER-ACTIVE EDITING™

STUDENTS / PROFESSORS

Expert editing of
MANUSCRIPTS • PAPERS • APPLICATIONS
PROPOSALS • THESES, etc.

Also TUTORING & RESEARCH

Highly Qualified, Experienced Ph.D. (McGill University)

(416) 929-6363



**LASER
ZONE**

present student ID
card and receive
FREE GAME

Buy one, get one free
Mon. to Thurs.

5 Glen Cameron Road,
Unit 1, Thornhill
Yonge St. north of Steeles Ave.
Tel: (905) 707-7137

See the zone



Truly Canadian

Great Food, Great Fun Sports & Entertainment

276 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V 1J2

Phone: (416) 977-0003 • Fax: (416) 977-1881

www.peelpub.com

Chef's Daily Specials

Most daily specials include a fresh baked roll, and choice of salad, rice or potatoes (fries, mashed, baked or boiled).

MONDAY	
1/2 BBQ Chicken	\$5.99
Home Made Meat Loaf Platter	\$4.99
Grilled Chicken Club Sandwich	\$3.99
Pizza	\$2.99
TUESDAY	
1/4 BBQ Chicken & Ribz Platter	\$5.99
Souvlaki & Greek Salad	\$4.99
British Club Sandwich	\$3.99
Linguini Primavera	\$3.99
WEDNESDAY	
Fillet Mignon Brochette	\$5.99
Vegetarian or Chicken Stir Fry	\$4.99
Home Made Shepherd's Pie	\$3.99
Fettuccini Alfredo	\$2.99
THURSDAY	
Chicken Brochette Platter	\$5.99
Smoked Meat Sandwich Platter	\$4.99
Vegetarian or Meat Lasagna	\$3.99
Hamburger Steak Platter	\$2.99
FRIDAY	
Fish'n Chips Platter	\$5.99
Grilled Chicken Fillet Platter	\$4.99
Beef Bourguignon on a Bed of Rice	\$3.99
Rigatoni	\$2.99
SATURDAY	
Rib Steak Platter	\$5.99
1/4 BBQ Chicken	\$4.99
Pizzoghetti or Pizzocasser	\$3.99
Breakfast until 4:00 pm	
SUNDAY	
Cheese Tortellini Napolitain	\$5.99
Chicken Fajitas Platter	\$4.99
Peel Pub Steak Sub	\$3.99
Breakfast until 4:00 pm	



**SAT. SUN.
MON. TUES.**

2 FOR 1

Buy one at regular price
receive a 2nd of equal
or lesser value Free.
One coupon per couple.
Food only. Dine in only.
Expires Nov. 30, '98

MONDAY NIGHTS

NFL Extreme Seats/Karaoke

TUESDAY NIGHTS

\$250.00 NIN Countdown (In Peel Pub Money)

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Don Gallagher and the Best Musicians

(With Special Guests)

THURSDAY NIGHTS

Ladies Night Hosted by Joe Cahill from 97.7 M12

Win a trip every week, for two to Montreal

FRIDAY NIGHTS

DJ, Dancing/Prizes

SATURDAY NIGHTS

NFL Extreme Seats, DJ, Dancing/Prizes

SUNDAYS

NFL Extreme Seats for the

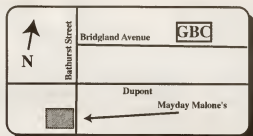
1 p.m., 4 p.m., and 8 p.m. games

Ask your server for details about the tickets before the game presentation

Mayday Malone's

What a Relief!

A PUB-STYLE ITALIAN EATERY



BOOK CHRISTMAS PARTIES NOW
Season's Greetings
THE OFFICIAL OFF-CAMPUS
PUB OF CASA LOMA!

1078 BATHURST STREET (JUST SOUTH OF DUPONT) (416) 531-8064

STUDENT LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday - Tuesday

1/2 PRICE WINGS

Wednesday

1/2 PRICE PASTA

Thursday

1/2 PRICE NACHOS

Saturday

1/2 PRICE PIZZA



<http://members.tripod.com/~dialognews>

The student community newspaper of George Brown College

Editorial office:

Room 159A
 St. James Campus
 200 King Street East
 Toronto Ontario
 M5A 3W8

(416) 415-2710
 FAX: (416) 415-2491

Casa Loma Office:
 Room 263

Allan Stokell

Editor-in-Chief

allan.dialog@mailexcite.com

Amy Kim

Student Adviser

amyhkim@rocketmail.com

Jerry Grymek

Advertising Manager

jerry.ads@mailexcite.com

Monique Kavanagh

Student Services Manager

mkavanagh@gbrownc.on.ca

Roxanne Chin-Choy

Office Manager

daydreamer20@lycosmail.com
smallsparrow@mailexcite.com

Margaret Sin

Casa Loma Campus

blueocean21@hotmail.com

Gabrielle Lasporte

Artist

Gordon Holder

Malcolm Stoddard

Technical Advisers

Marie Battaglia

Layout

George Vajna

Entertainment Editor

Jerome Adamo

Boni Barter

Marie Battaglia

Winifred Baylis

Stephen Flett

Dian Green

Aaron Hunte

Jake the Biker

Erdel John Malate

Charmaine Mayes

Janet Morrison

Kirsten Parks

Sydney B. Smith

George Vajna

Contributors


Student Association
 - OF GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE -

Presents:

George Brown College
Community-Wide

Art Competition

Prizes include:

Bookstore Gift Certificates, Cash
 Prizes, Art Supplies and More.

For more information pick-up the
 contest package at any Student
 Association office.

visual art
poetry
woodwork
fabric
design
graphic
design
sculpture
photo-
graphy
sketches
or any
other
medium

SECOND
NOTICE

submissions deadline
has been EXTENDED until:
january 13, 1999

submit to:
any student association office



Dialog is a Member of the Canadian University Press (CUP).

Contributions to Dialog are always gratefully accepted. Written work can be hand-written or in plain text (TXT). Images should be on 300 dpi platform in EPS format (please specify if created in Photoshop or Illustrator). It is requested that you submit a hard copy of your work with the disk. Opinions expressed in Dialog are not necessarily those of the Dialog Collective, the Student Association of George Brown College, or its editorial staff. Dialog will not publish any material that attempts to incite violence or hatred against individuals or groups particularly based on race, national origin, ethnicity, colour, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.

by Allan Stokell

I was born in England in a house looking out over the North Sea . The town is called Scarborough, and if that

Living in Toronto has allowed me to embrace other cultures as not possible in

As a devout Christian, this festive season holds special meaning to me. I will be gathered with my family and friends to celebrate the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ. We will put up a brightly decorated tree, eat and drink

All the best for the festive season!



Although my brothers and I were

That's my holiday in a nutshell. Amidst all this merrymaking, my

I can't wait for the excitement of it all to begin. In honor of the season, I'll be nice to the relatives I don't really like, I'll be uncharacteristically patient and kind. Most important, I'll work to be mindful of my blessings and the plight of others. I encourage you to do the same while sharing your good fortune with those around you. I know that some people consider the holiday season a time of hypocrisy (because I should be patient, kind and nice to my nasty relatives three hundred and sixty-five days a year). I agree wholeheartedly. But I have something about this particular time of year that prioritizes the truly important things in life: the people you love, the compassion you demonstrate and the joy you share with others. Amidst all the chaos, take the time to look at the lights and lose yourself in the magic.

RED HOT MAMA, thanks for the support but DON'T MARRY ANYONE ON THURSDAY! Firstly, because I have classes and can't attend (after all, if it is due to my article that you're getting married I surely deserve some free cake). Secondly, now you know the secrets for getting plenty of dates, why waste yourself on one guy? Now that you have attained Goddess status, you must bear in mind that a woman can never have enough worshippers to choose from!

the dialOG holiday issue December 1998 the dialOG holiday issue December 1998 the dialOG holiday issue December 1998 the dialOG holiday issue December 1998 the dialOG holiday issue

brown, GEORGE

Sports Update

By: Kirsten Parks

GBC Cheer and Dance Team

The George Brown College Cheer and Dance Team has had a busy month. With practices every Sunday and Monday and many performances in between, the team is getting better everyday! During their television debut, the Cheer and Dance Team performed with the Junior All Star Team for the York University Fans on Saturday November 21st. Although they were a little nervous during the first performance, it all came together for the second.

The Dancers were also grooving for Cap Night on Wednesday November 25th. They were there to support the Men's Volleyball and Basketball teams as they took on the Sir Sanford Fleming Knights. The fans truly appreciated the performances on the sidelines and during halftime.

Badminton

The Badminton players travelled to Fanshawe College in London for a tournament during the weekend of November 28th. This was a very good experience for both players and coaches as the team competed together for the first time this season. The Women's Doubles Team consisting of Janet Kushimo and Anna-Marie Devera played an exciting 3 game match, losing to Georgian. In Mixed Doubles action, Lan Nguy and Alex Tso played well advancing to the semi-finals on the consolation side. Coach Kim Ng is happy with the players' effort and is looking forward to a rewarding season ahead.

Men's Volleyball

The month of November has been extremely busy for the Volleyball Team with 5league games, the GBC Invitational Tournament, and an Alumni game. In league play the Huskies took on Loyalist, Algonquin, RMC, Nipissing, and S. S. F. The scores were 0-3, 0-3, 1-3, 0-3, and 0-3, respectively. There are no games scheduled for the month of December and the players will be taking a well deserved rest from volleyball for the month.

As the season progresses the Team is continually getting stronger. The Athletes have shown a noticeable amount of improvement in their technical skills of passing, blocking, defensive transition, and court position. One strong area worth mentioning is the intensity of play both on the court and in practice. Presently the team is carrying a roster of 9 players and hopes to recruit any interested students come the New Year.

Men's Basketball

On November 13th the Basketball Team travelled to New York to play at Daemen College. GBC lost the first game to Daemen but beat Humber College 70-63. This was a great win for the Huskies because they have not beaten a powerhouse team like Humber's in over ten years! Jason

Dawkins was selected to the All-Star Tournament Team.

In league play the Huskies are 2 and 0. Paul Cahur is leading the team in scoring with 28 points per game, and Marc Madramootoo is averaging 20 points per game. The next Home game for the Huskies will be on January 7th against Durham College at 6 pm.

Women's Basketball

November has been a very exciting month for the Women's Basketball Team. It all started off on November 4th when the Girls travelled to Humber to take on the Hawks. GBC came up short in this game 29-82. Next it was off to Niagara where the Huskies won a close game 53-50. The following three games were all a Home against Mohawk College,

Fanshawe College, and Georgian College. George Brown lost to Mohawk 64-74, and lost to Fanshawe 67-52, but came back strong in the Georgian game to win 55-17!

Coach Kurt McIntosh thinks that this team is made up of very talented individuals and with more practice they will grow together to form a very strong team unit.

Baseball

The 1998 edition of the George Brown Huskies Baseball team completed the season in the same fashion that it started, defeating York University 8-4. Although this year's team finished with a 2-14 record, they exhibited a competitiveness to play with every team in every game.

The word spread quickly through the

league that George Brown was an offensive power, and this proved itself to be true, as the Huskies were second only to the University of Toronto in offensive statistics at years end. We could score runs! The weakness from the beginning was pitching, but this aspect of the game steadily improved as the season progressed. This makes things look very promising for next year!

Indoor practice in preparation for the next season will begin on the third Wednesday in January, January 20th 1999, from 6pm to 8pm at Casa Loma Campus. All players, prospects, and those who wish to just come out and get in shape are welcome to attend. Have a safe and special Holiday Season, and see you in the New Year!

Political Corner

By Jerome Adamo
Director of External Affairs

hey fellow students! I apologize for the shortness of my article this month but as you know, the school semester is ending and it is the season for final tests and assignments. In this issue, I would like to give you a brief synopsis of the Canadian Federation of Students National Conference that they attended. Leslie and I attended from November 25-29 in Renfrew, Ontario, just outside Ottawa.

As in any general meeting of members in the CFS, the agenda included workshops for professional development so we can implement specialized skills for your benefit. These workshops included Domestic and International issues in post secondary education, democracy and student movements in Africa, and effective communication to get our

messages through to our locals and increase awareness.

Leslie and I also attended a forum in regards to Bilingualism, and the Asia Pacific Economic Conference issue. The latter concerned British Columbia demonstrators who, in my opinion, were denied the right of peaceful assembly when they were either arrested or pepper sprayed during last year's APEC Conference.

As usual at a general meeting of CFS, working sub committees of plenary, and the overall voting body broke off to conduct business of the Federation. Leslie attended the campaigns committee and I divided my time between budget, national education and organizational development.

Here are a few highlights:

- Donations to the Coalition for a public inquiry into the death of Dudley George Shot by the Ontario Provincial Police at Ipperwash

- Donations to Hurricane Mitch survivors.

- A campaign goal to raise awareness about the 'corporatization' of post secondary education
- Student Strike 2000 will be used to call for increased, dedicated cash transfers to the provinces for increased education quality and dissolved student debt.
- The call for the extradition of Augusto Pinochet, former dictator of Chile.

I want to wish you and your family the best this holiday season. As we relax over the holidays, everything may appear to be so great. The times with friends, the times with family and regular holiday cheer. Remember the fight still goes on so that you have rights. You do have a voice. Lastly, Awareness is one thing, Action is another.

The Writers' Development Trust Call for Submissions The Bronwen Wallace Award (Short Fiction Category)

Before her death at the age of 44, Bronwen Wallace spoke of some proposals for an award to be given in her name to honour a young poet or short fiction writer at the start of his or her career. Since Bronwen's first book did not appear until she was 35, this annual award of \$1,000 is presented to a writer below the age of 35, not yet published in book form. It was awarded for the first time in the poetry category on May 26th, 1994, in Kingston, Ontario.

Submission Requirements

The writer must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant, under the age of 35, unpublished in book form and without book contract, but whose work must have appeared in at least one independently edited magazine or anthology. Applicants should submit not more than 2,500 words of an unpublished English language prose fiction sample, double-spaced.

The writer's name, address and telephone number must appear only on the cover sheet accompanying the manuscript. All pages should be consecutively numbered. Entries will not be returned.

The deadline for submission is January 15, 1999, and all submissions must be sent to The Bronwen Wallace Award, c/o The Writers' Development Trust, 24 Ryerson Avenue, Suite 201, Toronto, Ontario, M5T 2P3.

Judging Procedure

The judges will be three established writers. The decision will be final.

MAKE THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MONITOR PROGRAM WORK FOR YOU!

Looking for an opportunity to work in another province? Need to brush up on your French skills? Spend a year in Quebec or New Brunswick!

Check out the Official Language Monitor Program. We promise an exciting and engaging experience. As a monitor of English you will work with a teacher in a classroom, part-time or full-time, to promote your language and culture.

If you are a Canadian Citizen or permanent resident, have at least one year of postsecondary studies and you want to work with students, then the Monitor Program is for you!

For further information see your:
• Career Placement Centre
• Financial Aid Office
• French Department
• Registrar's Office
• Graduate Studies Department
or contact the:
Provincial Co-ordinator

Official Languages Monitor Program
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch
140 St. Jean St. W. 1222
Mowat Block, Queen's Park,
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y2
Web Page:
<http://www.omc.ca/oly/>



Government of Canada
Gouvernement du Canada



Province of Quebec
Gouvernement du Québec



Province of New Brunswick
Gouvernement du Nouveau Brunswick



Province of Ontario
Gouvernement de l'Ontario

brown, GEORGE

DAAlog

A semi-regular column on Academic Affairs by Stephen Flett, your DAA (Director of Academic Affairs) at the Student Association. Or whatever random thoughts are meandering through Steve's head.

I get many students dropping by my office or stopping me in the hallways with questions like this, "What should I do about this problem?" Many of these issues are academic-related, they often have to do with a course or a teacher. So, here's a summary of my typical advice in dealing with these issues.

Maintain some perspective. Your way of looking at this issue may not necessarily be the only way. Be reasonable. Always try to remain calm and objective. Don't get personal and try not to show that you're angry or upset. If you appear too emotional, people will only see your anger, not your issue.

The first usual course of action is to put things in writing (what are the

details of the incident or problem, what are the effects of this situation on students and others, what are some possible solutions). This helps organize your thoughts and provide documentation of the problem. Also, GBC has a tendency to have the same attitude as many large organizations which is: if it's not in writing, it doesn't exist.

After putting things in writing, I usually recommend proceeding step by step up the chain of command. Speak to the professor first, if appropriate, then the coordinator, the chair, et cetera. Take it one person at a time. If any one person can solve the problem — great! Otherwise, you take it to the next person in the chain of command.

I always offer a couple of other suggestions:

1) It's sometimes a good idea to have someone from the SA or your SRC (Student Representative Council) to speak on your behalf. At the Student Association, this will usually be me, or one of the Campus VPs. If you're concerned that your

professor may mark you unfairly because of your complaint, this may be the route to go. A second reason to go through the SA or SRC is documentation. We keep a file of most problems just in case they crop up again.

2) You will probably want to research any reference materials to support your case: marked assignments and tests, college calendars, course outlines, and the college's codes of conduct.

Course calendars are a useful source of information but not always watertight. There's usually a disclaimer to allow them a loophole or two.

Course outlines are informally considered the "contract between the college and the student." They spell out what is to be delivered to the student by the teacher, and some rules and responsibilities for both sides.

College codes of conduct and other policies are probably the best way to support your argument, if they apply. They are the most OFFICIAL

documents. Unfortunately, however, they are sometimes too general to be of effective use, or do not address the particular problem at all. There are summaries of SOME of these codes of conduct in your Source book. There should also be FULL copies on file at various places around the college, including the library. I also have photocopies of the complete text of most policies. Let me know if you want me to check anything for you.

I hope this helps you out. If you're still unsure how to proceed with your issue, feel free to drop in to see me at the Casa Loma SA office, send me an e-mail at sflett@gbrown.ca, or leave me a voice-mail at 415-2900 #83221.

The Executive, Staff, Student Staff, and Volunteers of the George Brown Student Association would like to wish happy holidays to the entire student body of George Brown College, and the very best in the New Year.

A View From The Castle

by Charmaine Mayes

The view this month is a little red. And I don't just mean from lack of sleep. First of all, people, the Technology Student's Representative Council is exactly that. It is a body, created to speak for and about technology students. It is your opportunity to have a voice within the school. They do make things happen for students, and there are many benefits to belonging to such an organization, one of them being their Rep Appreciation party on Dec4th at Mayday Malone's. But right now they have a big problem. YOUR REPRESENTATIVE IS NOT ATTENDING THE MEETINGS. I can say that without much fear of being wrong, because I can count the number of active representatives on one hand, and there should be 100. Some classes haven't even elected a representative. If you have any questions about who your rep is, or if you even have one, ask your co-ordinator, or contact the TSRC. They are located in Room A219, or call 415-4387.

I should also mention that there are a few events and activities that the TSRC wants to implement, like a Scavenger Hunt, and a Technology yearbook, but they can't start any without your input, so get off your asses, and get to the meetings! Next meeting, Wednesday, January 13.

I'm also a little miffed about the attitude of some of the young men on this campus. Maybe you've noticed that there

are posters up for men to sign to show that they are opposed to violence against women. Personally, I'm opposed to violence against people, but that's not the point. The point is that some young men at this campus, and only this campus, thought it would be amusing to put up some fake names. Some were offensive, and some were downright rude, and I won't glorify any of them by putting them in print. People, please, grow up. If you don't support the cause, you don't have to wear the ribbon, or sign the poster, but don't disparage what is, in spirit, a good cause.

On a lighter note, the Jewelry Arts students were joined by the Con. Ed. Ceramics students had a sale on Dec. 3rd from 11:00am to 7:30pm. This is the first time that they have had this event with the Ceramics students since the daytime class had been cancelled. First year students sold brass tree ornaments, while second and third year students sold their own jewelry designs. The event was very successful, and a part of the proceeds are being donated to the Food Bank.

On a much lighter note, the Information Technology students had their first ever, totally student created Career Opportunities Fair on Dec. 3rd. It didn't go exactly as planned, and there were a few glitches, and many last minute cancellations, but overall, the planners, and the attending companies were pleased with the results. The resumes were professional looking, and so were

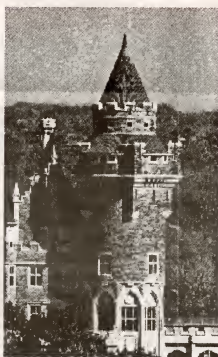
the students. I would go so far as to say that they dispelled the myth of computer programmers being geeks. The IT men were quite studly, and the women were HOT! If nothing else, it was a great opportunity for students to speak to employers, and experience the interview process first hand. I would like to inform the students that the employers were much more impressed with the students who spoke to them, as opposed to the students who just dropped off their resumes.

On a final note, the Students Association had their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, December 2nd. Yeah, I know you don't care, but this is a column about Casa Loma, so I gotta report about it. Anyway, the meeting was a huge success, and they reached quorum with the 40+ students who showed up. Many thanks to those of you who did, it's always nice to see student involvement. I'm told that the new Student Association by-laws were passed at the meeting.

And that's the most interesting thing anyone can tell me about it, so I won't bore you with the rest of the details.

So that's all from the Castle for this month, and I guess for the year. I'd like to wish everyone happy studying and good luck on all your final exams, and also the very best of holidays.

Enjoy your break. You're gonna need it.



1:23 PM
**After lunch
Jenny's breathing
became difficult.
The teacher
called 911.
No one knew of
her allergies and
she was too
frightened to talk.**

2:18 PM
**They still can't
reach you.**
 **MedicAlert**
SPEAKS FOR YOU
1-800-668-1507
www.medicalert.ca

the dialOG holiday issue December 1998 the dialOG holiday issue December 1998 the dialOG holiday issue De

Common traditions

The Winter Solstice — Why it really sucks!

by Boni

I sat over at the "Coffee Time" across from the campus sipping my coffee and reflecting morosely when over walked a woman from my course who said, "How come you look so miserable?" "Well," I replied, "I have to write a Christmas article for the school newspaper and I HATE Christmas!" I expected her to have the same reaction most people do. In this society broadcasting that you hate Christmas is akin to publicly admitting that you light fluffy kittens on fire for sport. "Me too, everybody dies!" "Whoohoo!" I whooped, "You too?! A kindred soul!" Along came a third woman. "What do you two look so pensive about?" "We hate Christmas," we responded in unison. "Me, too!" she gasped.

After that seditious conversation, I know there must be many more folks out there with the same opinion we have. If nothing else, I'm not alone, although I'm sure there are various reasons why so many of us loathe it. I'll just cover some of my own personal peeves. For those of you who love it, maybe you'll wind up with a little understanding of why some of us believe that December should be permanently eradicated from the calendar year. Maybe some of you can answer the deep philosophical questions that I have posed

below.

The second lady was right. Every kid knows it is die between December and January 2nd. The only good point I haven't had to take time off to attend the funerals. I'm sure if I ow goldfish, some fool kid would Christmas cake in the tank and I'd floating belly-up on Christmas mo. With a gerbil, it would get some exotic rodent disease that no one expect stationed in the wilds of outer Mo had ever heard of; I know I would thousands of dollars in airfare, medi and the latest laser technology on a dollar pet—only to find myself wailing into the great void by Boxing Day.

The people who invented Christmas realized that timing is everything. Dec is snowy, cold and windy. This do promote cheerfulness amongst those who choose to shop for presents. Snow and wind causes shoppers to be cranky in turn makes store clerks cranky. Consequently, I go in to the store for a discount peanut butter and have to deal a cashier who exudes all the chaotic Cleopatra's asp. This has a tendency exacerbate my already existing gloom.

My sister brought up a good point. rich people have the means to c

everything in December. Poor folks need to get their income tax back first, so they can afford to purchase toys that cost more than the down payment on one's first house. I think the government and retailers should seriously consider moving Christmas to March for those of us who have an income under 100K yearly. The stores would be less crowded and we would have more cash. Anybody want to start a petition?

Does anyone out there know what's with the tacky lawn ornaments? It's enough to make Picasso wish he had been born blind. If pink flamingos in the summertime weren't enough to make me retch, right after Halloween I get an eyeful of cheap plastic nativity scenes. These come complete with a peroxide-blond Madonna, pigmentally-challenged Joseph, imbecilic grinning wise men and miserable plastic sheep. They're proliferating everywhere. I think they procreate in people's closets during the off-season and now the fools who bought 'em in the first place are palming the descendants off as presents to all of their relatives. Couldn't someone put up Snow White and the seven dwarfs for a change? Has it ever occurred to anybody that red and green are not a subtle, tasteful colour combination?

The standard 5-course Christmas dinner may elevate men to the dizzying heights of gastronomic delight but it sure doesn't excite me to a tidal wave of orgasmic ecstasy. As Roseanne Barr so appropriately stated, "Who wants to get up at five o'clock in the morning to shove bread crumbs up a dead bird's ass?" It takes 12 hours to prepare a meal that takes all of ten minutes for a room full of gluttons to inhale. After that less-than-peak experience, usually the women are fobbed off to do dishes in the kitchen while the guys watch football, belch and snore. No matter how liberated you think your relationship is, just WATCH who first offers genuine help by grabbing the tea towels and scruffies. From the first of December, women I respect for breaking the glass ceiling battling the icons of the business world instinctively metamorphosize into Hazel-the-Housemaid. It's enough to make the most tolerant feminist want to impale herself on her N.O.W. button.

And who started this turkey crap anyway? Charles Dickens wrote about a Christmas GOOSE if anybody in Hollywood was ever literate enough to actually read the book. So what happened there? Why are we fighting

our way through crowded grocery stores at the last moment to pay top dollar for farmed flightless birds? With the amount of Canada geese defeccating all over the boardwalk, I have no idea why we don't wring their hideous necks and save ourselves a wagon load of cash, never mind the tax break due to "Parks & Rec" no longer being required to shovel goose guano. If we could legally practice some personal ecological species thinning at a beach that has enough poultry milling around to feed the entire population of Bolivia, we could eliminate food banks.

I despise New Year's Eve even more than Christmas if that's possible. I'd rather have my teeth drilled without freezing than go to a New Year's party—which either says much for today's dental profession or shows my readers just how much joy I derive from this particular celebration. I have personally termed New Year's, "The Night of the Liquid Dread". People who appear reasonably sane all year turn into caricatures of B-movie monsters at the stroke of 12. What is so stimulating about imbibing alcoholic beverages, feeling up the hostess' Afghan, then heaving your guts out on the hors d'oeuvre tray? I somehow fail to comprehend why over half of the nation chooses to spend the first day of a perfectly interesting new year hugging porcelain fixtures all morning then gulping analgesic all afternoon. Regarding the previous, can someone explain to me what it is that I am not grasping?

Of course after all the brouhaha that I wish I missed, we all have to go back to work and/or school at the beginning of January. OHMYGOD! THAT'S EVEN WORSE!!! Let's go back on holidays...

ON A SERIOUS NOTE:

I remember talking to a homeless man last Christmas who said, "At Christmas, I can get more free meals than anyone could eat. The rest of the year, nobody cares if I starve to death." It is all well and fine to treat each other well over the holidays. However, if you don't translate that into action the rest of the year, a few weeks aren't going to make much of a difference. Please, learn to treat each other with respect, kindness and honour ALL year. Make THAT your New Year's Eve resolution and maybe in the next millennium, we will really have something to celebrate....

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

home.) Scandinavians still have a parade of virgins carrying crowns of candles on their

Santa Claus. The Santa we know in North America is actually the invention of the Coca Cola Company in the late 19th century. In Europe in years past, there Father Christmas. He was much slimmer than Santa Claus and did not live at the North Pole. He is based on St. Nicholas, Turkish saint from the fourth century, secretly gave money to poor families.

The tradition states that once he dropped the money down chimney, and it fell into children's stockings. Get figure!

Advent. Four weeks before Christmas, most Christians are waiting for the coming of the Messiah. A wreath of leaves is made and four can are put on the perimeter. On Sunday of each week of Advent a candle is lit. Finally, a white centre candle is lit to celebrate the birth of Christ on December 25th.

Boxing Day. The day following Christmas Day is Boxing Day. This comes from English tradition of churches opening their 'almshouses' on the day after Christmas and the priest distributing the contents. It was also an off for domestic workers who served during the Christmas feasts.

Mistletoe. 200 years before Christ's birth Druids would gather sprigs of this yellow green plant to ensure good fortune. It was banned by the Roman church for years because of its pagan connection.

heads on St. Lucy day, December 13th. Singing carols These

popular hymns of a joyful nature date back to 15th century England. They may have been adapted from pagan folksongs.

Holiday Movie Guide

by George Vajna, Entertainment Editor

FOR THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS...here are some viewing suggestions for the holidays. White Christmas and Silent Night, Deadly Night are not among my favourites, but feel free to add them to your list. Light the fireplace, heat up some cocoa, sit back and enjoy.

1. A Christmas Story (1983)

John Shepherd, who grew up in the '40s, wrote and narrates this tale about a boy and his wish for a Red Ryder air rifle for Christmas. Can you believe the guy who directed this also directed Porky's.

2. A Christmas Carol (1984)

In my opinion this is the best version of Dickens classic, even if it is a TV movie. George C. Scott is great as Scrooge.

3. The Simpsons Christmas Special (1990)

The first ever Simpsons episode (not including Tracy Ullman). After using the Christmas money to remove Bart's tattoo, Homer takes a job as Santa. Santa's Little-Helper makes his first appearance here.

4. The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)

Michael Caine makes another great Scrooge. And who can honestly say they hate the Muppets?

5. Miracle on 34th St. (1947)

Is the department store Santa the real Santa? Natalie Wood shines as the little

girl.

6. Miracle on 34th St. (1994)

This faithful remake is almost on par with the original. Check out the scene with the deaf girl.

7. A Christmas Carol (1951)

Alastair Sim is the meanest Scrooge of them all.

8. A Charlie Brown Christmas (1965)

The Peanuts crew make their debut with this Christmas special. Who can forget Charlie Brown and his tree?

9. How the Grinch Stole Christmas! (1966)

Dr. Zeus at his very best.

10. The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)

An unusual Christmas movie, but Tim Burton's sense of humour makes it worth while.

11. It's a Wonderful Life (1946)

An extremely overrated movie, but Christmas would not be quite right without it.

12. Rudolf, the Red-Nosed Reindeer (1964)

Anyone who was teased at school can relate to this tale.

cheapDATE

The actor among us



Jim Kinney has done many things in his life. Currently, he is teaching Electronic Desktop Composition courses at George Brown College. Two summers ago he found himself standing in front of a movie camera as one of the principals in a Canadian feature film called *The Fishing Trip*. Hailed as a triumph at the Toronto International Film Festival, the film is now settling into extended runs in North American cinemas.

The film is a brooding tale of the conflict between two sisters that arises through allegations of sexual abuse at the hands of their step-father (Kinney). It was shot in and around Toronto in the summer of 1997 for \$80,000. Jim is quick to point out that the actors and technicians took deferrals in lieu of salaries. "That figure is about the catering bill for most Hollywood features," he quips. The film was directed by a York University professor, Buchbinder and features many of his best students. This is not Kinney's first foray into feature films: he has two others under his belt, including *The City of Dark*. He has also written a play, *The Elephant Boy* featured at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

What's next for Jim Kinney? Besides whipping those Electronic Desktop students into shape, he is making shorts for The Comedy Network and working on a screenplay for *The Elephant Boy*.



natchos

SOUTHERN FOODS

THAI MARKET, TEX MEX AND HOT WRAPS

DELIVERY

10% discount on food with student ID

92 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO

We do CATERING and GROUP PARTIES 364-8424 or fax 364-6862 for more details

VITAL PLANET HEALTH SHOP

NATURAL FOODS AND VITAMINS

92 Front Street East,

St. Lawrence Market North,

Toronto, M5E 1C4

(416) 366-4353

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

The Closet

non-profit Thrift Shop

1052 Bathurst St.

(416) 588-5321

Quality used and vintage clothing, books and household items.

All proceeds go to support the Lighthouse Community Centre

MENTION THIS AD AND RECEIVE A 30% DISCOUNT!

STPD

SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS DEPOT

GRAND OPENING

JOIN THE WAR ON CRIME

SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR PROTECTION!

ORDER BY PHONE: (416) 410-0666

OR ORDER BY FAX: (416) 423-0699

www.stpd.com

OPEN 24 HRS. 7 DAYS A WEEK

American Express

American Express Travellers Cheques

MONEY ORDERS

CHEQUES

ORDER TODAY

DON'T DELAY

SPRINGBREAK

Florida, Mexico, Etc.

Best Hotels, Parties, Prices.

Book Early and Save !!

Earn Money + Free Trips!

Campus Reps / Organizations Wanted

Inter-Campus Programs

1-800-327-6013 www.icpt.com



PACK YOUR BAGS WITH...
Temple and Temple Tours
Inc. ("TNT")

1-800-465-1532 or (416) 928-3227

and join the party for...

New Year's!!!

Spring Break!!!

* Montreal

* New Orleans

* Quebec City

* Jamaica or Mexico

Organize a small group and get a free trip!

Watch for us on campus. See SA for details.

The Educated Student's Choice... Graduate in the New Level!!!

133 Avenue Road, Toronto Ontario Canada Ontario Registration #2970034



WILDEST!

NEW YEAR'S & SPRING BREAK

Wildest party tours to CUBA, Montreal, Florida, Quebec.

FREE trips, discounts, bonuses for Group Organizers

Celebrating 38 years of Quality & Reliability

1-888-593-6666

www.uninopatravel.com

uninopa@netcom.ca



Christmas Records

by George Vajna
Entertainment Editor

The Christmas season is here again with another dozen or so Christmas albums. Four out of the five CDs reviewed here featured terrible covers of "The Christmas Song." Nat King Cole must be rolling in his grave.

VARIOUS ARTISTS - A Christmas To Remember

The moody "It Just Don't Seem Like Christmas" by Ian Moore is good and "Rudolf, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" by the Smithereens is fun. The rest of the songs are fairly unmemorable throwaways from mostly unknown artists. It may say a Christmas to Remember, but it will be more like a Christmas you'll forget.
GRADE: C

CELINE DION - These Are Special Times

Wow, with songs like "Blue Christmas," "Ave Maria," "Feliz Navidad" and "Happy Xmas (War is over)," one would think there must be something good here right? Wrong.
GRADE: D

BABYFACE - Christmas With Babyface

This is an embarrassingly bland album by Babyface. His covers of standards are dreadful, and his static delivery almost ruins all the songs. The one new song, "You Were There" isn't all that new (It is on the Simon Birch Soundtrack). The upbeat Sleight Ride is the only appealing track.
GRADE: D+

JERMAINE DUPRIE - 12 Soulful Nights Of Christmas

Jermaine Dupree handpicked the songs that appear on this collection. The cover of the Temptations' "Someday at Christmas" by Voices of Soul is okay, but the rest of the album stinks. Shame on you Jermaine!
GRADE: D+

NSYNC - Home For Christmas

I hate to say it, but Nsync delivered the best Chrismas album out of the bunch. "Under My Tree" and "I Guess It's Christmas time" are actually good songs. The rest is fairly schmaltzy, but that is what you would expect from Nsync.
GRADE: B-

TOP 5 CHRISTMAS ALBUMS

There are many great Christmas albums out there. These are my favorites.

1. BONNY M - Christmas Album
2. ELVIS PRESLEY -
If Every Day Was Like Christmas
3. WILLIE NELSON - Pretty Paper
4. PHIL SPECTOR -
Christmas Gift For You
5. (tie)

HAPPY XMAS (War Is Over) -
John Lennon &

LITTLE DRUMMER BOY -
Bing Crosby and David Bowie

BOTTOM 5 CHRISTMAS ALBUMS

There are many bad Christmas albums out there, and these are my least favourite. Anyone remember "This One's For The Children" by NKOTB? Didn't think so.

1. NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK -
Merry, Merry Christmas
2. BARRY MANILOW -
Because It's Christmas
3. AIR SUPPLY -
The Christmas Album
4. CELINE DION -
5. BOYZ II MEN -
Christmas Interoperations

cheapDATE

WWF Wrestling Talk

by George Vajna, Entertainment Editor

hey there "hardcore" wrestling fans! We got a lot of great news for you so before I get to the news if you have any questions e-mail ent.dialog@mailexcite.com, and by the way, I got two words for ya: SUCK IT!

In the WWF: A rumored Rock Bottom match will see either Al Snow vs. Bossman - Hardcore Title, HHH/X-pac vs. Shamrock/ Bossman, X-pac vs. someone on Team Corporate, or Kane vs. Bossman....HHH is still injured and wouldn't be able to wrestle for another 3-4 weeks....rumors are floating around that after Mark Henry saved Chyna on their date, Chyna may be leaving DX and joining the team of D-D and Mark Henry. More as things develop....expect to see a commercial for Wrestlemania XVI during the Superbowl....the WWF is planning two same sex relationships between Scott Taylor and Brian Christopher (Too Much) and Marlena and Jacky....and finally the WWF have scored their biggest victory from WCW by obtaining the Giant and the British Bulldog. Welcome

back Davey Boy Smith....and finally Shawn Michaels has two herniated disks in his back and won't be coming back for at least another few months.

In WCW news: (Stone Cold)BERG Goldberg will make his on screen debut opposite Jean Claude Van Damme in "Universal Soldiers II"...with Scott Steiner being the newest leader of NWO Hollywood, could he be bringing in a new (or should I say old) member. Maybe someone like Savage....Hogan may make his retirement speech during the Jan. 4 Nitro. Hogan still has a 2 year contract with WCW so expect to see him return in 6-7 months as a face good guy....A rumored match for Starcade is DDP/Malone vs. Bret Hart??? I wonder who Bret's mystery partner is going to be? It can't be Dennis Rodman because he is currently suing WCW for money they owe him. Was that Charles Barkley I just saw walking out of WCW's office? Thats all for this month. Happy holidays and I'll see you in the next issue!



Soundguide CD Give-Away

Contest Rules

1. Contest is open to George Brown students, at all 4 campuses.
2. Only one entry per student. Multiple entries will be disqualified.
3. Enter the contest in one of two ways:
 - (i) submit your completed entry form either to the Dialog office, St James Campus, Room 159A; or any campus Student Association (SA) office;
 - (ii) or e-mail the title of the CD you want, along with your name, student number and campus location to: ent.dialog@mailexcite.com
4. Entry forms for this issue's Give-Away must be received by December 14, 1998 at Noon.
5. All winners' names for this issue's contest will be published in the Dialog's Night Life issue, available in early January 1999.
6. All prizes are to be claimed from the Dialog office, St James Campus.



CD Give-Away Entry Form

These are the 4 CDs we are giving away this issue. The contest rules are the same, except students should circle the CD that they want.

- CD: TO - They Never Saw Me Coming
- CD: Gangsta Boo - Inquiring Minds
- CD: Helltah Skellat - Magnum Force
- CD: Cypress Hill - IV

Name: _____ Student Number: _____ Campus: _____

To enter the Dialog's Soundguide CD contest, drop off your entry form at the Dialog office, St James Campus, Room 159A; or any campus Student Association (SA) office; or e-mail the title of the CD you want, along with your name, student number, and campus location to: ent.dialog@mailexcite.com

Play Guitar for a Lifetime!

with the ...
Sight & Sound
Video Guitar Course



Learn ...

- Hundreds of Chords, Bar Chords, & Horn Chords!
- Over 20 Different Finger Picking Patterns!
- How to Play Lead Guitar or Scales
- Plenty of Riffs, and Practice Exercises!

For Beginners to Intermediate ... This Course Unrachs the Tricks!

- Learn Tips & Shortcuts ... You Won't Find in Books, with ...
- Close-up Camera Shots teach you to play different styles like;
- Rock, Jazz, Folk, Blues, Country, and Swing Styles etc...
- "Picture in Picture" Camera Shots Demonstrates Hand Techniques
- Play with Rhythm and Lead Guitars with 1 Hour Jamming Sessions!

Featuring!

- 4 Hours of Video Instruction, Two, 2 Hour VHS Videos!
- Complete 92 page Book, Expands & Explains Tips & Shortcuts!
- Complete Guitar Maintenance and Finger Exercises!

All this for less than the cost of 4, 1 hour lessons!

Order Your Course Today! (416) 287-0810
MasterCard, VISA, Money Order, Cheque, No C.O.D.'s



EAGLE CHARISMA CREATIONS INC.
www.globalserve.net/~eaglecharisma

by Sydney B. Smith

Upon the step of hard times keep
 The old man gasps inside
 The youthful times
 Of nursery rhymes
 Fulfilled a dream talk the talk
 To quicken weary minds
 And freeze their tears
 With oversee'ers
 Elected choice
 Is time
 Upon the step of misery
 There sleeps the face of luck
 Upon a winter sidewalk strands
 The hand bad fortune struck
 There sleeps the place
 Of once the child
 Now age has crept inside
 To boil life with hardened strife
 Cold moon will soon abide
 Satans ice is paradise
 Old winters cold has froze
 Old men in old Toronto freeze
 In ways
 Nobody chose

by Erdel John Malate

I am a spiritual being molded in the
image of God; a human being made of
body and mind,

I am a fearful warrior both the brave
fighter and the mad destroyer,

I am a dreamer who gazed upon the stars,
hoping one day to fulfill his dreams,

I am like a light in the raining night I
pierce through the dark and its obstacles,

I seek the knowledge and wisdom of
life and look beyond the horizon, beyond
the dark cave,

I am one unique individual among
millions, upon one planet, within one
universe,

I am me, but who are we?

Aren't we brought up to suffer and then
die, to find a meaning in life and have a
"why",

Aren't we programmed to obey each
command, re-constructed to follow all
sort of demands?

Aren't we the ones who value peace
and harmony, to care for those in need
with open arms?

Or are we the ones who value power
and money, to kill our brothers and
sisters with military arms,

Isn't there a boundary between good
and evil?

What is the meaning?

Do we possess these qualities as
people?

What does it take to be a being?

by Andrew Chesswell

went to sleep last night and you were there. When I awoke you were gone. The last time this happened to me I had to take actions that later proved to be without cause. Since there is only one bed, I suggest that we use it in shifts. I'll take the early watch and when you get in, I'll move to the bath tub. We are going to have to arrange our times better. By the way...you snore.

You are going to have to start knocking. Your parents need their privacy and barging in can prove to be embarrassing. Know your limits. Imagine how they would feel if they came into your room when you were rolling around with your friend. Nothing stifles nookie more than being caught.

You accuse me of sending secret messages. How secret can they be if ten thousand people read them? Why does the name Peter ring a bell? I've got more than enough on my mind this week, so having Peter pop in can be most disconcerting. Do you know Peter? Is he a redhead?

Yes school can be boring. Try showing up for the 8 am classes and asking questions when appropriate. If you have a problem with your Prof., talk to them before going elsewhere. Don't bad mouth people. Never, ever use the prejudice trip on ANYONE. Have a great time, you'll see these times as the "golden years".

You have been ignoring that person. Is it because you are so attracted to them that it scares you? I see your daydreams about them and they are triple X rated. You don't even know if they want to do those things with them. Go over to them, get close look them in the eyes, and let it go.

So you had too much at the boat cruise. If you wake up every morning with a hangover, you have a problem the size of a magnum of champagne. Everything due to excess can damage you. Get your diet straight first. Keep off the saturated fats. Don't drink until after supper and never have more than three.

Put out that cigarette! It doesn't make you look glamorous and pretty soon that skin around your eyes will make you look ten years older. If you want a bad habit, I personally think you should start picking your nose. Nose picking never killed anyone.

Have you ever kissed anyone upside down? Try it. If you lay on the floor or a bed approach your partner from the top of their head. Wet kisses are best and watch what you are doing with your hands. A real turn on for

by Dian Gren

It was a cold winter's day when angel and I met. But it wasn't our typical introduction. To this day, I don't know if she was married or had any kids. I don't know what she did with her life, or if she was happy. But the one thing I am sure of her life was tragically cut short by an automobile accident. I remember as if it were yesterday; the fire truck, police cars and ambulance as it sped away from Landsdowne station. I remember asking what had happened. Someone spoke of a woman running for and slipping under the bus. She died instantly at the scene. If only the bus hadn't been there. If only the accident hadn't happened. If only I had been there. I wish I had more time for the bus to react and pull her free. Many years have passed and still I think of her and what would have been. I do not know angel's real name, but she will however be a part of one, the faceless ghost within.

How to Research Almost Anything: A Canadian Guide for Students, Consumers and Business. By Stephen Overbury and Susanna Buenaventura. Published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited, 1998. 208 pages, \$19.95 plus GST.

How to Research Almost Anything is full of stories like this. The first half, *Learn from the Experts*, devotes thirteen chapters to thirteen professionals who solve problems for themselves and other people. Among them are librarians, scientists, genealogists, police interrogators, lawyers, journalists, and private investigators. They tell about uncovering hidden assets, missing persons, family relationships, and political scandals. The stories are brief, full of useful tips, and all of them have something to say about getting to the truth of a matter, and using information well.

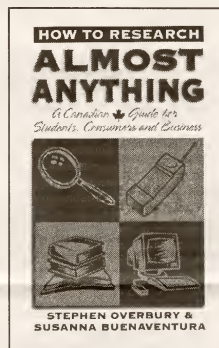
Although, on the surface, this section appeals directly to journalism students, it shows how both individual need and the public good are served by research. The approach is entertaining, and the message is a good one: knowing how to get information pavs off.

The second half, *Where the Experts Get Their Information*, clearly and simply explains how to find information. This is where the authors excel. In addition to finding sources in libraries and on the Internet, Overbury and Buenaventura explain the structure of the federal, provincial, and municipal governments, and the court system in Canada. Understanding the different jurisdictions is an important first step in obtaining all types of official and public information. These sources include voters' lists, tax assessment rolls, land registry files, and so on.

Research, more than anything else, is a social activity. Successful researchers are prepared, persistent, and polite. Regardless of the type of information, you need to know who to ask, what to ask, and how to ask. Choice of words, tone of voice, and physical appearance influence results. As journalist, John Zaritsky states "you can get a lot of information out of people as long as you don't seem to have any bad reason for wanting it."

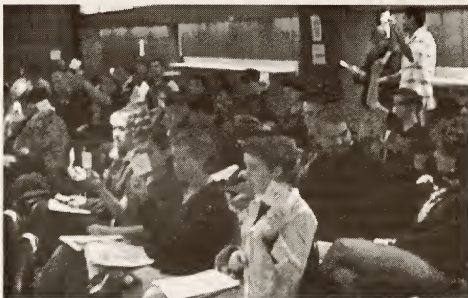
How to Research Almost Anything has been published in two earlier editions under the title *Finding Canadian Facts Fast* (1985 and 1989). This updated third edition is a worthwhile reference for beginners—students included—who need to conduct solid research from official sources.

Review by Marie Battaglia



We live in an age of information, where we trade facts and figures, and interpret them too. In *How to Research Almost Anything*, Stephen Overbury and Susanna Buenaventura make the case that getting the facts is an important skill for everyone - not only for students.

Overbury writes about his experience with an American bank that made a mistake with his deposit. The mistake caused Overbury to write a bad cheque. The bad cheque caused him all sorts of trouble: not only money, but also time and reputation. The bank refused to give him any money and he had to find a sufficient fund (NSF) fee. Overbury at first felt helpless, but writes that he "had faith in the power of information." He telephoned the legal department of his Canadian bank to find out about banking regulations in the United States. Eventually he contacted the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), an agency of the United States Department of the Treasury. The OCC reacts rapidly to the consumer's right to sue the bank for what had happened to him. After he contacted the OCC, the bank could not fix his problem fast enough.



diaCYCLE

by Jake the Biker

Sorry I missed you guys for the Health and Fitness Issue. I'd promised I'd have something about biking, but I got busy with assignments, and well, you know the story. It's December and look on the street. People are still biking, bless them. It takes a good skiffle of snow to shut down the bikers.

Lots of stuff has gone down since my last column so I won't even try to catch you up. There are a few questions that should be answered and a few points to be made.

Let's start with a few safety issues. I avoid the trinity. The big three are TTC vehicles, trucks and taxis. If you check the fatality list over the past few years you will see most of them involved one of the three. Buses can't see you, you are too low. Streetcars are better in that you know exactly where they will be traveling, but sometimes the lanes end and you end up on tracks. I have wide tires, but streetcar tracks can be dangerous especially when wet. When it comes to trucks, I avoid them at all costs. I bike on streets that exclude them, I don't go on highways and I always keep an eye out. Those drivers keep horrible hours so they are probably tired and often only too willing to take a chance with your life. If they can over you it is

unlikely they would know it or even care.

Taxis are another thing. The drivers just don't care about human life. They stop over bike lanes, they drive you around corners, they are just the worst drivers in the city. If you complain to one, you are just as likely to be threatened with a tire iron.

While we are bitching, I'd like to cover a few other things. First most car drivers have about as much grey matter as Homer Simpson's doughnut. The ones who come down from the suburbs are even worse because they have never seen anyone on a bicycle cause it's a vast wasteland of strip malls up there and everyone's got a Bronco.

Just in case you are a pedestrian and think your not going to come in for criticism; forget it! Although your not as lethal as a car you are about as dangerous. I've had hand poked in my face, been spit at and had cigarettes thrown at me. So when your walking down the sidewalk, look before you stick out your hand to cross the road, spit or throw that smoke. There maybe that silent menace the bicyclist barreling down on you!

So, you probably think that all I do is complain. I'd like someone else to write the bike column so if you can put together 500 words e-mail them to jake.dialog@mailexcite.com.



Fraud Alert

Source: Toronto Police Service 13 Division — Community Update

Millions of Canadians buy lottery tickets every week in the hope that they are lucky enough to win the 'big' prize. We all dream of the good life, a happy retirement, etc.

Unfortunately we all need to be cautious because there are scam artists who will take advantage of our hopes and dreams.

Scams often occur over the phone, by junk mail and even personally addressed mail. Many scams specifically target seniors.

The scams are designed for multiple hits or in other words, they will try you again and again until they are successful. Here are just a few examples.

The "Santa Claus" Scratch and Win

You scratched and, to your amazement, you won \$1,000.00. All you must do is phone a winner's hot line to find out how to collect your prize. This \$19.95 phone call, billed directly on your next phone bill, eventually reveals that you didn't win anything but were scammed.

Winners Letter

Have you ever received a letter in the mail notifying you that you won money, a TV, a VCR, etc? Did you

enter a contest? Are you lucky enough, out of millions of people, to have been chosen at random? All you have to do is mail the envelope and a nominal fee to an address in B.C., New York, Germany along with and you will receive details on your prize. The details never come. Yes, you were just scammed.

Telemarketing Scams

Last, and most dangerous are the many telephone scams. You may get a call from a scam artist telling you won something but to collect it all you have to do is purchase something else. Do not buy into these scams. In other cases the scam artist will identify himself/herself as a bank official requiring your credit card number.

In all cases when dealing with an unknown person on the telephone, confirm their credentials prior to conducting ANY transaction.

Play it safe. Know the person you are dealing with. When in doubt, call your local police station before you send money or give your credit card number to any unsolicited mail or a phone caller.

Season's Greetings!



Our best wishes for successful exams and a happy holiday.

From the staff at

TRAVEL CUTS

Student and Backpacker Travel Experts

49 Front Street East, 365-0545

Owned and operated by the Canadian Federation of Students

www.travelcuts.com

ON CAMPUS



Editor's note: We apologize to our readers for not having an elvislog in the last two issues. We have received many (always anonymous) complaints. What follows is an almost verbatim account concerning the reasons for the column's absence.

I listen, we are really tired here! The editor of this rag claims he hasn't received the last two e-mails. I call bull shit 'cause I've been sending them. He's been using those dick heads at male excite, so I'm not surprised that he can't get America On Line electronic files. Like, is he sending us money or something? We've been writing all this shit since August and we haven't even got a fuckin' CD! Then he has the nerve to e-mail us that we haven't submitted. Well submit this you weasel!

Elvis@aol.com

attached file: elvis7.txt

Day 150

Gees, so what is happening back there in TO? We are in Loa, Utah. Too-Tall thought it might be a good place to go 'cause its AOL backwards. Things got kinda hot in Texas. The state smokies were pissed 'cause we stole the tow truck and were doing pirate towing. We fucked off to Mexico for a while, but we got shit for selling grass to the tourists so we headed back north. We thought Utah might be a good state for a couple of fugitives to hang out in cause the place is full of Mormons. I'm not sure why they call them Mormons, cause they have more wives. They should be called Morwomans.

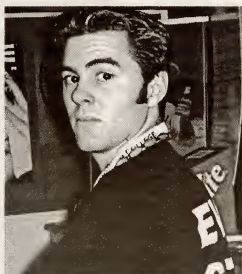
So no one better make jokes about them because they have welcomed us with open arms. Everyone is so pleasant and willing to share what they have. It must be kinda what it's like in heaven. Too-Tall has found a job at a service centre just of the 1-15. I've been trying to make a few friends in town. Seems like we don't have too much in common. Like, I'm this city girl. I've been around the block a few times and don't take shit from anyone. So what do I have in common with women who apparently have a different goal in life. Well, I kinda like kids. I should qualify that statement cause I kinda like other peoples kids. (For 10 minutes in a neutral zone).

I was so successful at making friends that I found a position at Bob's Country Diner. All I have to do is smile and write down the numbers the patrons bark out. I then repeat these numbers to the horribly obese man who cooks the food. This sounds like something out of a Russian spy movie cause it goes like this: "table 3 wants a 12 brown, a 6 easy-over, 16, 7, 14 and hold the 27."

Like how do these people digest this stuff? For instance, I was working double shifts last week and the sweaty chef was on. In the middle of things someone at the front of the house let out this god-awful scream. I went running to the table to find out what the fuck was going on.

"Look at it!" he screamed, "I can't eat it. Take it way." Now, working for Bob is OK, but I know that if someone whips out without paying, it's my ass that is on the cash register. "What is the problem with your succulent prime chop of pork with mash and gravy?" I enquired to the red-faced toad. "It's Elvis!" he retorted in a quiet and hushed tone. I peered into the sloop on his plate.

Sitting there was the usual condiments and a perfectly reverse symmetrical set of pork chops. Starting wide and round at the top and slowly narrowing to a rounded point. "It's the kings sideburns!" screamed the goofus. Sure as shit, when I looked at that mass of gelatinous grease, animal flesh and starch I had an epiphany. At this point he picked up the chop and placed it on the side of his head. I suddenly saw what he was referring to. My mind flashed back to the album covers. The 'Viva Las Vegas' days. Holy fuck! It was Elvis's sideburns!



SHOUT IT!

25% OFF

Glasses for:
George Brown
Students and Staff
at

THE OPTIC ZONE

33 Jarvis St. @ Front St.
Ph. 416-362-EYES (3937)

Toronto's newest MUST SEE Optical Store

EYE EXAMS AVAILABLE (By Appt.)

ELVIS LIVES!



3 REASONS WHY ELVIS STILL LIVES;

1. QUAALUDES®
2. CABO'S SMOKED RIBS
3. CABO'S CHICKEN WINGS

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CABO GRILL,
ONE POUND OF WINGS, HALF RACK OF RIBS AND A PITCHER ALL FOR

\$ **20***

*AVAILABLE BETWEEN 5:00 - 11:00 PM EVERY TUESDAY. TAXES EXTRA

Cabo

Grill

"The best pizza & ribs you've ever had"

1 Richmond Street West at Yonge Street 366-9226

A quick ten minute walk from St James and Hospitality Campus